

ALTERNATIVE LIVESTOCK ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Alternative Livestock Advisory Council (ALAC) fulfills duties required by the following statutes:

87-4-432. Alternative livestock advisory council -- appointment of members -- duties. (1)

There is an alternative livestock advisory council to advise the department on the administration of alternative livestock ranches in this state.

(2) The alternative livestock advisory council is composed of five members, appointed by the governor as follows:

- (a) one member of the board of livestock or the department of livestock;
- (b) one member of the fish, wildlife, and parks commission or the department;
- (c) one member who is a representative of the alternative livestock industry;
- (d) one member who is a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this state; and
- (e) one member who is a representative of the sportspersons of Montana.

(3) Members of the alternative livestock advisory council shall serve staggered 2-year terms.

A member may serve one additional consecutive 2-year term.

(4) The alternative livestock advisory council is attached to the department and the department of livestock in an advisory capacity only, as defined in 2-15-102. The department and the department of livestock shall provide staff support and assistance necessary for the council to perform its functions.

Prior to the passage of I-143 in November of 2000, an applicant for an alternative livestock ranch license could request that the alternative livestock advisory council review a department proposal to deny an alternative livestock ranch license or to issue a license with stipulations by petitioning the alternative livestock advisory council for review within 10 days of the department's proposed decision. The alternative livestock advisory council was responsible for issuing a recommendation to the FWP commission to either grant the license, propose to deny the license, or issue the license with stipulations. With the passage of I-143, however, the statutes dealing with issuance of an alternative livestock ranch license and with review of a decision on issuance of a new license were repealed.

Staff and support assistance for the ALAC is provided by the MFWP Manager of Commercial Wildlife permitting (that position has been vacant since January, 2012) and Marjorie Kelley of the Department of Livestock. The ALAC has met 3 times since August of 2000 and no meetings have been held since 2007. Meetings are to be convened when issues arise requiring discussion by the ALAC or input from the ALAC to FWP or Department of Livestock. The terms of five of the appointees to the Council expired in January, 2012. One appointment expired in January, 2011 but we have not been notified of that person's reappointment or a different appointment.

The issues that precipitated the passage of legislation to establish the council have, to a great extent, been resolved by the passage of I-143 and subsequent handling of more procedural issues by FWP and D o L. Those issues, combined with the few meetings held in the last decade lead FWP to believe that at this point, the council is no longer necessary.